

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-28 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 5, 9 and 13 are amended, and new claims 14-28 are added by the present amendment.

As an initial matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the Claim to Priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document, as indicated in Item 12 of the Office Action Summary, and for acknowledging acceptance of the Drawings filed February 20, 2001, as indicated in Item 10 of the Office Action Summary.

Objection to the Title

In the outstanding Official Action, the Title was objected to as not descriptive. A new Title is added which more clearly describes the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this objection be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,583,813 to ENRIGHT et al. (herein "ENRIGHT"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, an Internet camera which merges "said plurality of schedule scripts into a merged schedule," and further controls an "image capturing device to capture images in accordance with the merged schedule."

Independent claims 5, 9 and 13 recite similar features.

In a non-limiting example, FIG.5 shows schedule data including first and second schedule scripts. According to the first schedule script, images are captured and transferred at every 15-minute interval, from 0:00 to 8:00, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; while according to the second schedule script, the images are captured and transferred at 15-minute intervals, from 21:00 to 24:00, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. By merging the first and second schedule scripts, the images are captured and transferred, at 15-minute intervals, from 21:00 of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to 8:00 of the next day, respectively. As a result, a schedule which extends over two days can be achieved (see the specification at page 16, lines 1-15).

In contrast, ENRIGHT only discusses at cols. 27 and 28 and in FIG. 1 thereof an image server 166 separate from the cameras 172. In ENRIGHT, the cameras 172 are incapable of performing functions such as merging schedule scripts or of capturing images in accordance with such a merged schedule, as set forth in independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13.

Further, ENRIGHT at col. 35, lines 25-44 merely discusses a user setting up "daily schedules" of pre-programmed responses to events. It is respectfully submitted that ENRIGHT's discussion of "event/response" settings (such as alarm conditions or transactions) which differ according to user settings on a daily basis (see also the Abstract of ENRIGHT), is fundamentally different from capturing "images in accordance with the merged schedule," as set forth in independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13. Additionally, that portion of ENRIGHT recites that rather than merge schedules (as set forth in pending independent claim 1, for example), the system of ENRIGHT instead

seeks “to prevent inadvertent overlap of sequences.”

Therefore, because not each and every feature of claim 1 is found in ENRIGHT, the rejection of pending independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13 and each of the claims depending therefrom under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is improper. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted pending independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13 and each of the claims depending therefrom patentably distinguish over ENRIGHT.

Moreover, independent claim 1 further recites, *inter alia*, controlling “said data transfer client to transfer the image data file corresponding to the captured image in accordance with the merged schedule to said predetermined site.” Independent claims 9 and 13 recite similar features.

In a non-limiting example, FIG. 1 shows an Internet camera 1 having an FTP client 5 operating with a network interface 4. As a result, the Internet camera 1 can transfer image data according to a merged schedule (as discussed above).

In contrast, the cameras 172 of ENRIGHT are separate from the image server 166, and cannot “transfer the image data file corresponding to the captured image in accordance with the merged schedule to said predetermined site,” as recited in pending independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 9 and 13 and each of the claims depending therefrom even further patentably distinguish over ENRIGHT for this additional reason.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over ENRIGHT and U.S. Patent No. 6,654,060 to KUROSAWA et al. (herein "KUROSAWA"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Pending claims 2-14 depend on independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13, which as discussed above are believed to patentably distinguish over ENRIGHT. Moreover, KUROSAWA merely discusses at col. 3 and FIG. 1 a camera control apparatus 1001, which is not a camera—rather, KUROSAWA shows a video camera 1003 entirely separate and distinct from the camera control apparatus 1001.

Like ENRIGHT, KUROSAWA also does not teach or suggest at least an Internet camera which merges "said plurality of schedule scripts into a merged schedule," or which controls an "image capturing device to capture images in accordance with the merged schedule," as set forth in pending independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13.

Further, even assuming *arguendo* that KUROSAWA and ENRIGHT can be appropriately combined in the manner set forth in the outstanding Office Action, such a combination would still be deficient because even taken together, they do not teach or suggest an Internet camera which merges a "plurality of schedule scripts into a merged schedule," or which further controls an "image capturing device to capture images in accordance with the merged schedule."

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13, as well as claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 12 depending therefrom, also patentably distinguish over any proper combination of ENRIGHT and KUROSAWA for at least these reasons. Thus, the rejection of claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on

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ENRIGHT and KUROSAWA is improper, and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested. Also, pending claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 12 are believed to further distinguish over ENRIGHT and KUROSAWA because of the additional features recited therein.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1, 5, 9 and 13 are amended only to correct minor informalities and to better conform to standard claim drafting practice. It is believed no new matter is added by the amendments to these claims.

New Claims

In addition, new claims 14-28 are added to set forth the invention in a varying scope. Support for new independent claims 18 and 20 (which both recite features similar to pending independent claim 1) is found at least in FIGS. 5 and 6, respectively, and in the specification at page 16, lines 1-15 and page 16, line 16 to page 17, line 18, respectively; and support for new dependent claims 14-17, 19, 21, 23 and 28 (each of which recite similar features) is found in the specification at least at page 17, line 19 to page 18, line 5.

Further, new independent claims 22 and 24 recite features similar to independent claims 1 and 5, respectively, but are drafted to more directly reflect features recited therein; also, new claims 25-27 depend on new independent claim 24, and recite features similar to pending dependent claims 6-8, respectively. It is believed no new matter is added by new claims 14-28, and new claims 14-28 are believed to be patentable at least for similar reasons as discussed above regarding independent claims 1, 5, 9 and 13, as well as for the patentably distinguishing features respectively recited therein.

Conclusion

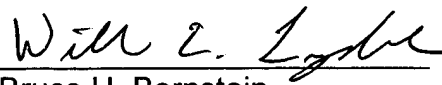
Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, consideration of the present amendment, reconsideration of the outstanding Official Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein is respectfully requested.

The amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based on the cited art, and should therefore be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to be attached thereto.

Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believes that he has now done so.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this Response or the present application, Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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